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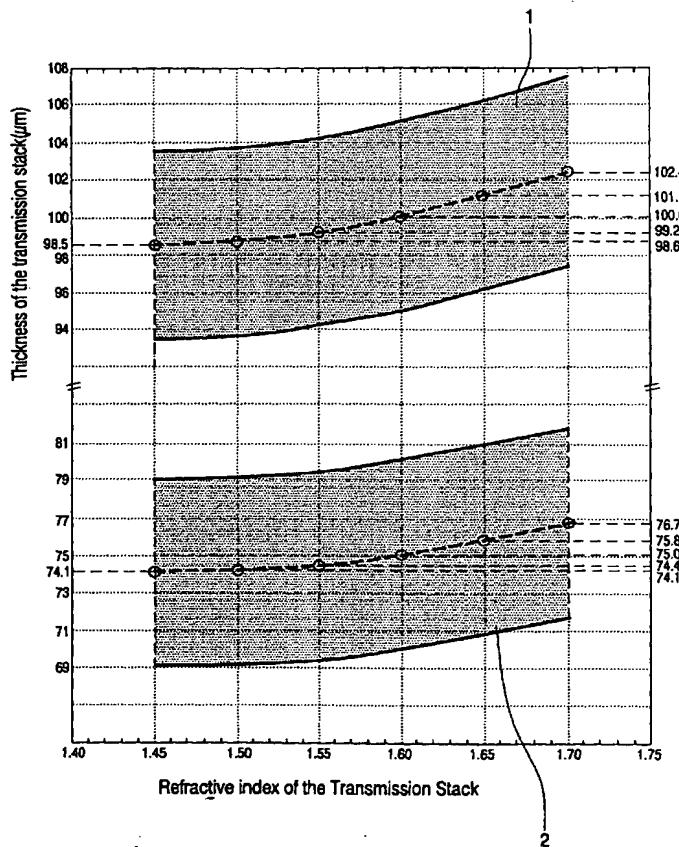
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(54) Title: DUAL STACK OPTICAL DATA STORAGE MEDIUM AND USE OF SUCH MEDIUM



(57) **Abstract:** A dual-stack optical data storage medium (20) is described for read out using a focused radiation beam (29) with a wavelength of 400 - 410 nm and a Numerical Aperture (NA) of 0.84 - 0.86. The medium has a substrate (21) and a first stack of layers named L0 (22) comprising a first information layer and a second stack of layers named L1 (23), comprising a second information layer. A radiation beam (29) transparent spacer layer (24) is present between L0 and L1. A transmission stack named TS0 with a thickness d_{TS0} and an effective refractive index n_{TS0} contains all layers between L0 and an entrance face (26) of the medium (20). A transmission stack named TS1 with a thickness d_{TS1} and an effective refractive index n_{TS1} containing all layers between L1 and the entrance face (26). The spacer layer (24) has a thickness selected from the range 20 - 30 μm , the thickness d_{TS0} in dependence on the refractive index n_{TS0} and the thickness d_{TS1} in dependence on the refractive index n_{TS0} are within a specified area. In this way a reliable read out of both the first and the second information layer of respectively L0 and L1 is achieved.

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 172 811 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD) 16 January 2002 (2002-01-16) paragraphs '0043!-'0047!, '0075!; figure 1 -----	1, 3-5
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A	US 6 246 656 B1 (KASHIWAGI TOSHIYUKI ET AL) 12 June 2001 (2001-06-12) column 9, line 13-45 -----	1-5

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